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were notified of the destination of immigrants, but owing to the fact that many were destined to places other than those mentioned on their papers, and many others held by the commissioner, it was not practicable to state in the telegrams the precise number destined to any given place. The messages were as follows: Immigrants of the steamship *Orefeld*, on which 1 case variola occurred, leave here to-day for places of destination. Similar notification will be sent when those detained by the commissioner are released.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. STONER,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

NOTE.—The North German steamship *Orefeld* arrived at Baltimore April 9, with 721 steerage passengers aboard, and, having 1 case of smallpox, was detained at the Baltimore (local) quarantine. Immediately upon arrival the patient was removed to hospital, his clothing, etc., destroyed, and thorough disinfection performed.

Surgeon Stoner was immediately directed by a telegram from this Bureau to take extra precautions in examining the immigrants on the vessel after her release from quarantine, and to note the destination of each immigrant and transmit the same by wire to the State health authorities of each State receiving them, with information that 1 case of smallpox occurred on this vessel.

Case of smallpox on steamship Illinois.

The steamship *Illinois*, from Antwerp, with 765 steerage passengers, arrived at Delaware Breakwater Quarantine April 8, having had 1 case of smallpox on board en route. As the steerage had been fumigated every third day and the patient's clothing disinfected, and all passengers vaccinated, the vessel was given pratique. Surgeon Purviance was notified, and made a careful examination of the vessel upon its arrival in Philadelphia, vaccinating several steerage passengers, who did not show evidence of previous successful vaccination, and telegraphing to the secretaries of State boards of health the destination of each passenger.

One case of smallpox landed at Paducah, Ky., from steamer J. K. Speed.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *April 9, 1896.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the steamer *J. K. Speed*, New Orleans to Cincinnati, shipped a roustabout at former place who developed smallpox en route and was landed at Paducah, Ky. The *Speed* stopped at this port and at request of owners I disinfected vessel as well as possible and vaccinated officers, crew, and most of the passengers. The necessary virus was furnished by the company.

Yours, very respectfully,

W. P. MCINTOSH,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, *April 10, 1896.*

SIR: As previously reported by telegram, the steamer *John K. Speed*, from New Orleans, bound for this port, landed a sick negro roustabout at Paducah, Ky. The officers of the boat claim that they had no suspicion that the case was smallpox and were not even aware of the fact until several hours later when making a landing at Henderson (?), where they were informed that the case landed at Paducah was small-

pox. The boat was detained at Louisville, and Dr. McIntosh requested to make examination and vaccinate the crew. He vaccinated all of the crew he could find, but several hid away and were vaccinated here. Six of the cabin passengers left the boat and took a train to Cincinnati. The boat made two or three landings after leaving Louisville. The boat had a cargo of general merchandise and lumber. There were 26 passengers, none of whom had been exposed. Two of said passengers were vaccinated by request. There were 70, all told, in the crew, 23 of whom were vaccinated, as they showed no signs of previous vaccination. All were examined. As these roustabouts sleep on the lower deck without bedclothing, nothing was done in the way of disinfection except to wash down the decks with water. Two officers from the health office accompanied Acting Assistant Surgeon Stevenson and myself 10 miles down the river, where we met the *Speed*, and they expressed themselves as satisfied with what had been done. The boat was admitted on my certificate.

Very respectfully,

J. O. COBB,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Measures for the prevention of the spread of smallpox in Mobile.

MOBILE, ALA., April 8, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith letter of Dr. James A. Abrahams, health officer for Mobile, in which he asks the cooperation of the United States Marine-Hospital Service in preventing the further spread of smallpox in the city by vaccinating the crews of river steamers plying between this port and Montgomery, Ala.

Last week one new case occurred in the city, and on the 6th instant another case was discovered at Venetia, 9 miles distant, on the L. & N. R. R.; both were negroes. No cases have occurred among the roustabouts, and there have been but 4 admitted to the pesthouse, yet I would respectfully recommend that authority be given to cooperate with the local board of health as requested by Dr. Abrahams, to the end that there may be the least possible increase over the present small number.
* * * At the request of their captains the crews of the U. S. revenue steamers *Seward*, *McLane*, and *Forward* have already been vaccinated.

Very respectfully,

E. K. SPRAGUE,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure.]

BOARD OF HEALTH, *Mobile, Ala.*, April 7, 1896.

Dr. E. K. SPRAGUE,

Assistant Surgeon, Marine-Hospital Service, Mobile, Ala.

DEAR DOCTOR: In view of the occurrence of cases of smallpox or varioloid near Montgomery, Ala., between which point and this city steamboats are constantly plying, the board of health requests that you have the crews and all persons on board river steamers coming to this city vaccinated. It is well known to you that the crews especially of such steamers are frequently carriers of contagious and infectious diseases. This board is using every endeavor to prevent smallpox gaining a foothold in this city, and ask your cooperation to the above extent.

Trusting that you concur in the opinion of this board that such vaccination is wise, and that you will at once order same performed, I am,

Yours, respectfully,

JAS. A. ABRAHAMS, M. D.,
Health Officer.